AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. – 26. (Canceled)

27. **(Currently Amended)** An allograft, comprising:

~~a.~~ **a** preserved vessel **produced from a vessel** isolated from a human umbilical cord**, wherein the vessel is** directly lyophilized without chemical denaturing, said preserved vessel exhibiting low antigenicity[[,]] ~~and~~ high patency**, and integrity** when implanted , said preserved vessel being substantially free of fetal blood~~, said vessel further including a lumen~~; and

~~b.~~ a removable stent located in ~~said~~ **a** lumen of said preserved vessel.

28. (Previously Presented) The allograft of claim 27, in which said preserved vessel comprises a vein.

29. (Previously Presented) The allograft of claim 27 in which said preserved vessel comprises an artery.

30. (Previously Presented)The allograft of claim 27 in which said preserved vessel and stent further include a canister under vacuum for containing said preserved vessel and stent.

31. (Previously Presented) The allograft of claim 27 in which said preserved vessel is free of fetal blood by way of irrigation.

32. (Previously Presented) The allograft of claim 27 in which said preserved vessel comprises a straight vessel segment.

33. (Previously Presented) The allograft of claim 27 in which said preserved vessel comprises a branching vessel segment.

34. (Previously Presented) The allograft of claim 31 in which said preserved vessel free of fetal blood by irrigation is free of fetal blood through irrigation with heparin solution.

35. (Previously Presented) The allograft of claim 27 in which said stent is a nylon stent.

36. (Previously Presented)The allograft of claim 27 in which said preserved vessel possesses a plurality of branches and further includes a plurality of stents each located in a lumen of each of said plurality of branches of said preserved vessel.

37. (Previously Presented) The allograft of claim 36 in which said plurality of stents comprise nylon stents.

38. **(New)** A preserved vessel produced by direct lyophilization without chemical denaturing of a vessel isolated from a human umbilical cord, wherein the preserved vessel exhibits low antigenicity, high patency, and integrity when implanted, said preserved vessel being substantially free of fetal blood.

39. **(New)** The preserved vessel of claim 38 in which said preserved vessel comprises a vein or an artery.

40. **(New)** The preserved vessel of claim 38 in which said preserved vessel is provided in a canister under vacuum.

41. **(New)** The preserved vessel of claim 38 in which said preserved vessel comprises a straight vessel segment or a branching vessel segment.

42. **(New)** The preserved vessel of claim 38 in which fetal blood is removed from the vessel by irrigation.

43. **(New)** The preserved vessel of claim 42 in which irrigation is performed with a heparin solution.

44. **(New)** The preserved vessel of claim 38 further comprising a removable stent in a lumen of said preserved vessel.

45. **(New)** The preserved vessel of claim 44 in which said stent is a nylon stent.

46. **(New)** The preserved vessel of claim 38 in which said preserved vessel possesses a plurality of branches and further includes a plurality of stents each located in a lumen of each of said plurality of branches of said preserved vessel.

47. **(New)** The preserved vessel of claim 46 in which said plurality of stents comprise nylon stents.

48. **(New)** A method for implanting a vessel graft, the method comprising:

rehydrating a preserved vessel to produce a rehydrated vessel for implantation, the preserved vessel being produced from a vessel isolated from a human umbilical cord or placenta, wherein the vessel is directly lyophilized without chemical denaturing, said preserved vessel being substantially free of fetal blood; and

implanting the rehydrated vessel into a recipient site in a human patient;

wherein said implanting provides a vessel allograft having low antigenicity, high patency, and integrity.

49. **(New)** The method of claim 48, wherein a removable stent located in a lumen of said preserved vessel is removed prior to said implanting.